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ALEXANDER SAYS ADMINISTRATION LIED TO CONGRESS
BY JEFF NECESSARY
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

CIA director William F. Casey and other administration officials have lied to Congress about American policy in Central America, Rep. Bill Alexander, D-Ark., said Friday.

Alexander, a Democratic leader in the House, recently returned from a congressional tour of Central America. He said Casey should be removed from the top spot in the intelligence agency.

"The administration has not revealed its plan to Congress," Alexander said in a Little Rock news conference. "In fact, Bill Casey and other members of the administration have lied to Congress about what the policy is. Bill Casey should be replaced."

Alexander, who toured the region last week along with Georgia Democrat Wyche Fowler and Ohio Republican Ralph Regula, said President Reagan has not stated a clear policy for the region and has bungled his efforts at "gunboat diplomacy" through military force.

Alexander suggested a five-part program to bring stability to the region:

-- A ceasefire.

-- An immediate "stand down" of all armies.

-- Installation of a peace keeping force.

-- The end of all arms shipments from the outside.

-- A summit meeting of Western Hemisphere nations to discuss the existing problems and work on solutions.

"If our policy is to overthrow the Sandinista government in Nicaragua," Alexander said. "we are fighting the wrong enemy. The enemy is not communism. The enemy is poverty, hunger and years of oppression. What is needed in Central America is a comprehensive policy to deal with those problems that foment discontent and cause people to take arms against their government."

"The Central American leaders say, 'Do not escalate the war in Central America,'" the congressman said. "Military policy has failed in Central America."

Alexander said his discussions with Edgar Chamorro, a leader of the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan Democratic Force revealed that the CIA, along with previously revealed covert operations on land and sea, has a secret air force that is bombing Nicaraguan targets using Salvadoran pilots.

"The CIA is managing a war that's too big to hide and too hot to handle," Alexander said, adding his belief that the intelligence agency was put in charge of the Central American operation because the Pentagon wouldn't touch it.

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